



Systematic Reviews: *Making Fire Science Useable*

Systematic Research Reviews examine large numbers of studies, synthesizing the results into knowledge useable in professional practice. At Human Dimensions & Fire Social Science (HDFSS), systematic review findings are the foundation of fire management tools and applications created by teams of scientists and fire managers.

Systematic Reviews are different from traditional literature reviews. They begin with a clearly stated problem as practicing professionals experience it. The questions come directly from managers. The systematic review then focuses on a specific question and identifies, appraises, and synthesizes high quality and reputable evidence relevant to that question. The systematic review process may also reveal important gaps and uncertainties in applied research knowledge that require additional study. Another benefit is that reviewers can provide a statement about the degree of confidence that can be placed in each of the review's conclusions.

<http://frames.nbii.gov/hdfss>

Systematic Reviews and the Human Dimensions & Fire Social Science (HDFSS) Website

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At HDFSS, we identify pressing fire management needs for fire social science information and practical tools and applications. We then search for existing systematic reviews both within fire social science and in allied fields. We organize what we find, summarize the findings as they apply to fire management, and post the collection on the FRAMES HDFSS site. If no existing systematic reviews are found or if they are inadequate to address fire manager needs, we conduct our own systematic reviews.

But we don't stop there. We recognize the validity of experience gained through professional practice. We create working groups of fire managers and fire social scientists to translate systematic review results into tools and applications that have integrated scientific research knowledge with practical knowledge of experienced fire managers. These are also posted on FRAMES HDFSS.

If you have a problem in the human dimensions of fire management for which you need useable scientific information, or if you wish to participate in a systematic review, or the development of fire management tools and applications from review results, please contact us.

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